

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10, drawn to a fibers and fabrics comprising a blend of highly fusible polyurethane fibers and non-elastic fibers; and

Group II, claims 4 and 9, drawn to a method of forming highly fusible polyurethane elastic fibers.

**For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse,
Group I, Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10.**

It would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner to examine both groups of claims in view of the various common limitations in the claims. At a minimum, the Examiner is requested to rejoin the claims of Group II after the claims of Group I are allowed.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Toyohiko Konno, Registration No L0053 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

NOV 21 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By Toyohiko Konno (#L0053)

for Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.

Registration No.: 28,977

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant